

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A trailer-stabilizing device extending between a towing vehicle and a fifth-wheel trailer, said trailer-stabilizing device having:

~~a dampener operably connected to said towing vehicle and said fifth-wheel trailer, said dampener having an engaged position in which said dampener trailer-stabilizing device operably engages said fifth-wheel trailer and said towing vehicle to apply~~ applies a dampening force to the fifth wheel trailer,

~~said dampener having a disengaged position in which the dampening force is not substantially applied to the fifth-wheel trailer; and,~~

a regulator for commanding the ~~trailer-stabilizing device dampener~~ between said engaged position and said disengaged position.

2. (currently amended) ~~The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 1, A trailer-stabilizing device extending between a towing vehicle and a fifth-wheel trailer, said trailer-stabilizing device having:~~

~~_____ an engaged position in which said trailer-stabilizing device operably engages said fifth-wheel trailer and said towing vehicle to apply a dampening force to the trailer.~~

~~_____ a disengaged position in which the dampening force is not substantially applied to the fifth-wheel trailer; and,~~

~~_____ a regulator for commanding the trailer-stabilizing device between said engaged position and said disengaged position;~~

wherein said trailer-stabilizing device is secured between the towing vehicle and the fifth-wheel trailer at a position spaced apart from a hitch connecting the towing vehicle to the trailer.

3. (currently amended) ~~The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 1, where A trailer-stabilizing device extending between a towing vehicle and a fifth-wheel trailer, said trailer-stabilizing device having:~~

~~_____ an engaged position in which said trailer-stabilizing device operably engages~~

~~said fifth-wheel trailer and said towing vehicle to apply a dampening force to the trailer,
_____ a disengaged position in which the dampening force is not substantially applied
to the fifth-wheel trailer; and,~~

~~_____ a regulator for commanding the trailer-stabilizing device between said engaged
position and said disengaged position;~~

~~_____ wherein the trailer has a main cabin, and said dampening force is a substantially
downward force applied by the trailer-stabilizing device to the main cabin.~~

4. (currently amended) ~~The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 1, A trailer-~~
~~stabilizing device extending between a towing vehicle and a fifth-wheel trailer, said~~
~~trailer-stabilizing device having:~~

~~_____ an engaged position in which said trailer-stabilizing device operably engages
said fifth-wheel trailer and said towing vehicle to apply a dampening force to the trailer,~~

~~_____ a disengaged position in which the dampening force is not substantially applied
to the fifth-wheel trailer; and,~~

~~_____ a regulator for commanding the trailer-stabilizing device between said engaged
position and said disengaged position;~~

~~wherein said trailer-stabilizing device includes a linkage extending between said
towing vehicle and said trailer.~~

5. (currently amended) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 44, wherein said
towing vehicle is a pick-up truck ~~and said trailer is a fifth-wheel trailer.~~

6. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 5, wherein said pick-up truck
has a rear end with a receiver secured thereto, and said trailer-stabilizing device is
detachably secured to said receiver.

7. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 4, wherein said linkage is
substantially a four bar linkage.

8. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 4, wherein said linkage
includes:

an arm pivotally secured to a base;

a wheel rotatably secured toward a distal end of said arm; and,

said wheel operably engages a ramp extending from said trailer when said trailer-stabilizing device is in said engaged position.

9. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 8, wherein said trailer-stabilizing device is in said engaged position when said towing vehicle and said trailer are traveling substantially straight.

10. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 8, wherein said wheel disengages said ramp when said trailer is in said disengaged position.

11. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 10, wherein said trailer-stabilizing device is in said disengaged position when said towing vehicle and said trailer are turning.

12. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 8, wherein said dampening force is provided by a pneumatic chamber operably secured to said trailer-stabilizing device.

13. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 12, wherein said pneumatic chamber is substantially flexible.

14. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 12, wherein said pneumatic chamber is a pneumatic cylinder.

15. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 10, wherein said regulator includes a pressure relief valve that activates when a predefined upper pressure is achieved in the pneumatic chamber.

16. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 15, wherein said regulator includes a manually actuated pressure relief valve.

17. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 16, wherein:
said manually actuated pressure relief valve has a control handle;
and said towing vehicle has a driver's compartment;
and said control handle is positioned within said drivers compartment so that a driver of the vehicle may activate the control handle from within said driver's

compartment.

18. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 4, wherein said linkage has a stored position wherein said trailer-stabilizing device does not extend between said towing vehicle and said trailer.

19. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 18, wherein linkage is pivotally secured to said towing vehicle and pivoted upward away from said trailer in said stored position.

20. (original) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 19, wherein said linkage may be secured in said stored position.

21. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 1, wherein said towing vehicle is a pick-up truck.

22. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 21, wherein said pick-up truck has a rear end with a receiver secured thereto, and said trailer-stabilizing device is detachably secured to said receiver.

23. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 21, wherein said trailer-stabilizing device includes a linkage extending between said towing vehicle and said trailer.

24. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 23, wherein said linkage is substantially a four bar linkage.

25. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 2, wherein said towing vehicle is a pick-up truck.

26. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 25, wherein said pick-up truck has a rear end with a receiver secured thereto, and said trailer-stabilizing device is detachably secured to said receiver.

27. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 25, wherein said trailer-stabilizing device includes a linkage extending between said towing vehicle and said trailer.

28. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 25, wherein said linkage is substantially a four bar linkage.

29. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 3, wherein said towing vehicle is a pick-up truck.

30. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 29, wherein said pick-up truck has a rear end with a receiver secured thereto, and said trailer-stabilizing device is detachably secured to said receiver.

31. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 29, wherein said trailer-stabilizing device includes a linkage extending between said towing vehicle and said trailer.

32. (new) The trailer-stabilizing device of claim 29, wherein said linkage is substantially a four bar linkage.